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PATENT SPECIFICATION

186,281



Convention Date (France): Nov. 21, 1921.

Application Date (In United Kingdom): Jan. 26, 1922. No. 2241 / 22.

Complete Accepted: Sept. 28, 1922.

COMPLETE SPECIFICATION.

Improvements in Fire Escapes or Lowering Apparatus.

I, ANTOINE JOSEPH MARIUS BAR-
THELEMY, known as PAUL CANS, of 18,
rue Ernest Lefevré, Paris, France,
citizen of the Republic of France, do
5 hereby declare the nature of this inven-
tion and in what manner the same is to
be performed, to be particularly described
and ascertained in and by the following
statement:—

- 10 This invention relates to improvements
in fire escapes or lowering apparatus of
the kind involving the employment of a
rope which may be suspended at a con-
venient place, for example at a window
15 for lowering endangered persons, or for
the salvage of goods, and comprising two
plates connected to form a frame in
which are mounted two fixed rollers and
a displaceable roller around which the
20 said lowering rope is passed in such a
manner that the weight of the object to
be saved causes a movement of the dis-
placeable roller towards the fixed rollers
to produce a braking effect between the
25 rope and the appliance, the said braking
effect being regulable, by the person
descending pulling on the rope, or by a
person at the lower end of the rope,
pulling the free end thereof.

- 30 The object of the present invention is
to provide an appliance of this kind
which can be secured to any point in the
length of the lowering rope without
threading the appliance on the rope.

- 35 The appliance according to the inven-
tion comprises essentially two side mem-
bers in which the axles of the fixed rollers
are mounted one above the other and
which are provided between the said axles
40 with lateral extensions in which a remov-
able roller may be displaceably mounted
so that a pull on the lowering rope causes
the removable and displaceable roller to
move towards the fixed rollers.

- 45 To render the appliance ready for use
the lowering rope is suspended from a
point convenient for descending; a loop

is passed between the two fixed rollers
and around the removable and displace-
able roller and the free end of the rope 50
is pulled to draw in the loop and bring
the latter roller close up to the fixed
rollers.

The crowding of the rollers together
produces a braking effect between the 55
appliance and the rope which braking
effect is regulable by pulling more or less
on the free end of the rope.

The invention is illustrated by way of
example in the accompanying drawings 60
wherein—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the
device showing the method of attaching
same to the rope,

Figure 2 is a perspective view showing 65
the device in working order.

As will be seen, from the accompany-
ing drawings, the appliance is consti-
tuted by two side members *a* parallely
located and connected by pins or bolts *g* 70
and axles *b* bearing or supporting two
fixed rollers *c* one above the other.

The said side members comprise
between the said axles, lateral extensions
h and *i* one of which is provided with an 75
open horizontal or otherwise arranged
slide *j* the ends of which are flared at *k*,
while the other is provided with a closed
slide *l*. The extension *i* is curved out at
its end *m* and serves as a housing for the 80
axle *e* of a removable roller *d*, which can
also occupy the open position shown in
Figure 1, or be engaged between the two
parts *h* and *i* (Figure 2).

The axle *e* is kept in the closed slide *l* 85
by means of a pin *n* shown by dotted lines
on the drawing.

The linking means of the axle *e* on the
part *i* may, of course, be any other than
the one described, providing it allows 90
easy passing of the loop *r* over the remov-
able roller *d*, which can assume the posi-
tion shown in Figure 2 and crowd more
or less closely against the fixed rollers *c*

according to the weight or load supported by either of the pins or bolts *g* according to the arrangement of the device on the rope *c*.

5 A method of using the aforescribed escape is as follows:—

When a fireman has by any means reached a group of endangered persons, then, being provided with his rope and
10 a number of appliances, he is enabled to get them down without any effort, either singly or in groups.

For this purpose, after having fastened the rope on any convenient part of the
15 building, he affixes the appliance to the said rope. The endangered persons have only to hook on by means of their belts or waists and let themselves down regulating the speed themselves. If the
20 endangered persons are incapable of regulating the speed of descent a fireman at the bottom of the rope may do so by pulling the end. The fireman at the top may confine his duties for the time being
25 to attaching further lowering devices and superintending the descent of other endangered persons.

It is obvious that the appliance may

be used for purposes other than salvage. It can be made in the form of a toy or
80 reduced model.

Having now particularly described and ascertained the nature of my said invention and in what manner the same is to be performed, I declare that what I
35 claim is:—

1. A fire escape or lowering apparatus of the type referred to characterised by two side members in which the axles of the fixed rollers are mounted one above
40 the other and which are provided between the said axles with lateral extensions in which a removable roller may be displaceably mounted, so that a pull on the lowering rope causes the removable
45 and displaceable roller to move towards the fixed rollers.

2. A fire escape or lowering apparatus substantially as described or substantially
50 as illustrated in the accompanying drawings.

Dated this 25th day of January, 1922.

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Redhill: Printed for His Majesty's Stationery Office, by Love & Malcomson, Ltd.—1922.

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